Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

29 November 2007

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellites and Information Service

Last bulletin: November 26, 2007

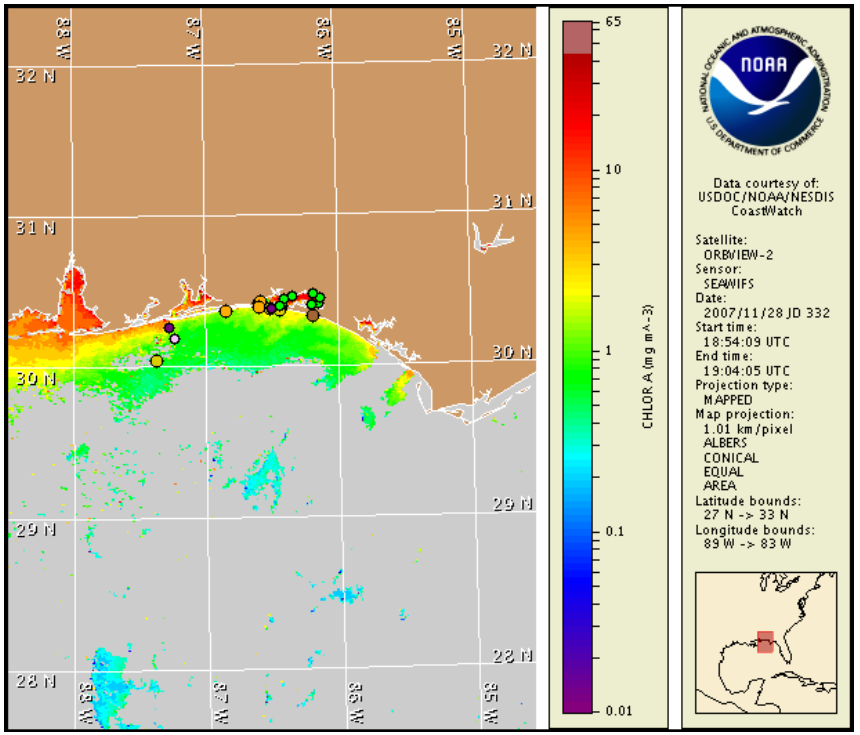
Conditions Report

A harmful algal bloom has been identified in patches from Gulf County, Florida to Mobile County, Alabama and in Harrison County, Mississippi. Patchy low impacts are possible today through Sunday in bay regions of Gulf County, with patchy moderate impacts possible in bay regions of Okaloosa County, Florida and Baldwin County, Alabama. Patchy very low impacts are possible this afternoon through Saturday along the coast from Walton to Escambia County, Florida. Saturday night through Sunday, patchy low impacts are possible in coastal regions of Walton, Okaloosa and Escambia Counties, Florida, with patchy moderate impacts possible in coastal regions of Santa Rosa County, Florida. No impacts are expected in Bay County, Florida, Mobile County, Alabama or Harrison County, Mississippi today through Sunday.

Analysis

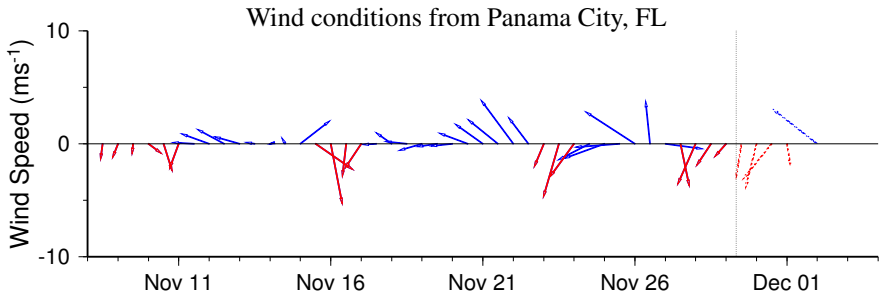
A harmful algal bloom persists in patches from Gulf County, Florida to Harrison County, Mississippi. Samples collected 4-17nm offshore Escambia County on 11/21 (FWRI) contained background to low concentrations of *Karenia brevis*. No *K. brevis* was identified this week inside bay regions of eastern Walton County or Bay County, Florida. Chlorophyll levels remain elevated up to 8μg/L along the coast of eastern Okaloosa, and up to 7μg/L alongshore from Escambia County to the Mobile Bay region. In bay regions of Jackson and Harrison County, Mississippi, high chlorophyll levels (>10μg/L) are visible at 30°17’44’’N 88°35’15’’W and 30°18’18’’N 88°44’39’’W, respectively. Continued sampling is recommended along the coast and in bay regions. Reports of dead fish and respiratory irritation have been received from Okaloosa County over the past few days. Forecasted conditions should minimize impacts along the coast through Saturday, with an increased potential for coastal impacts on Sunday. Slight westward transport is possible through Saturday.

~Fisher, Allen



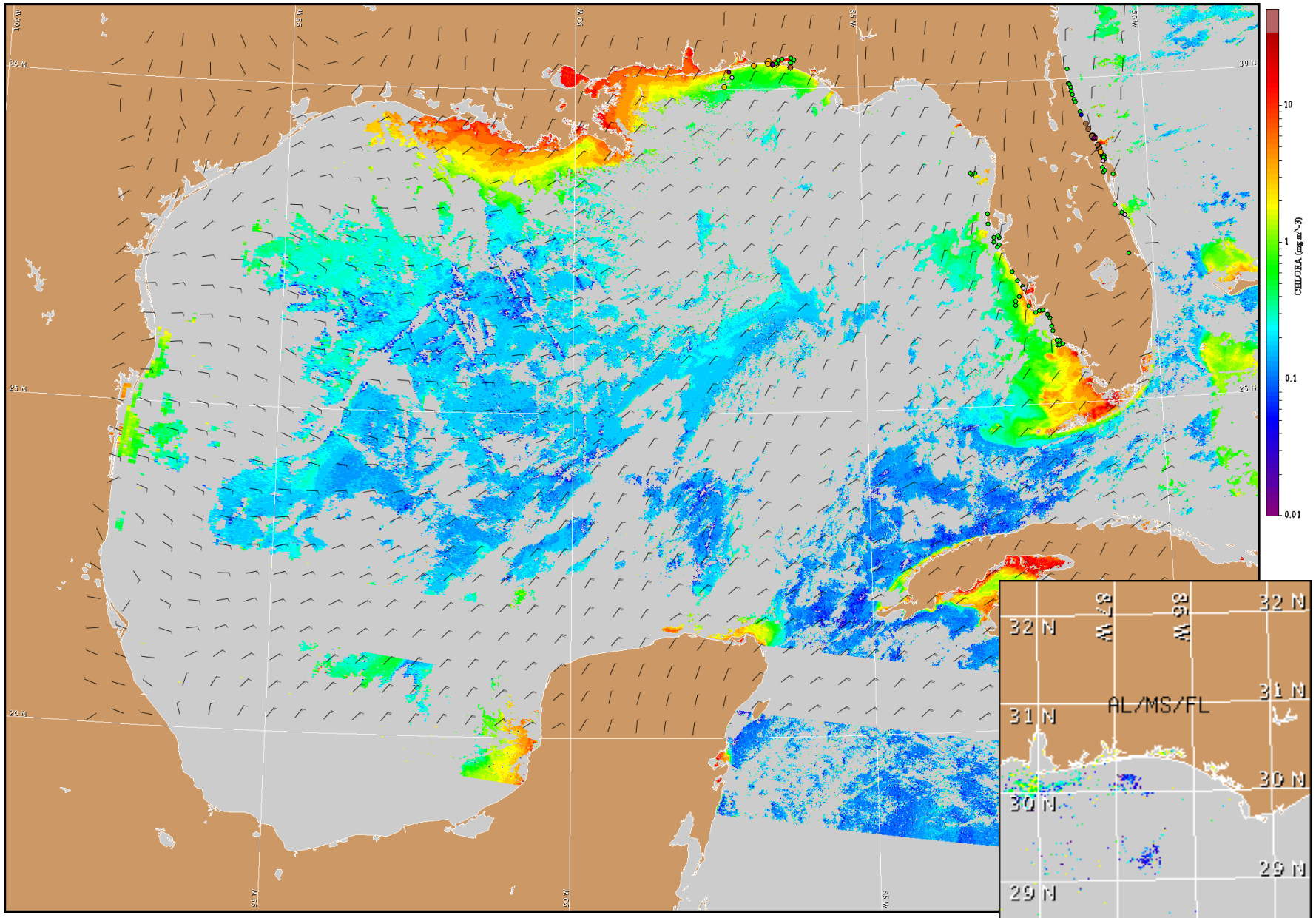
Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from November 19 to 28 shown as red (high), orange (medium), yellow (low b), brown (low a), blue(very low b), purple (very low a), pink (present), and green (not present). For a list of cell count data providers and a key to the cell concentration categories, please see the HABFS bulletin guide:

http://www.csc.noaa.gov/crs/habf/habfs_bulletin_guide.pdf

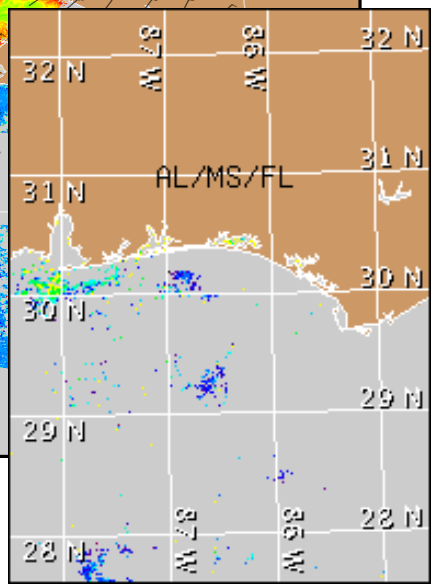


Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from buoy measurements. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts.

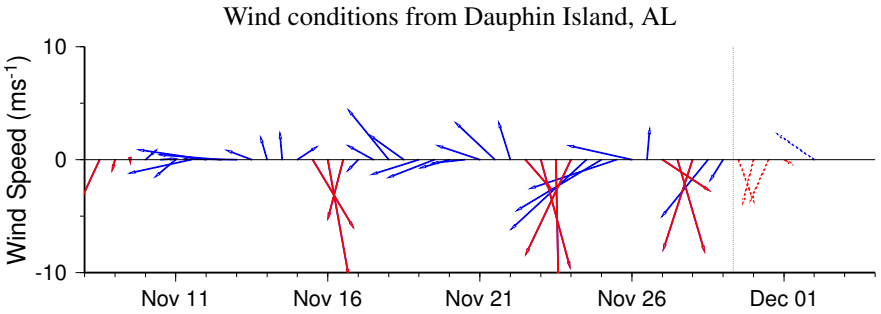
NW Florida, Alabama and Mississippi: North winds (10-15kts, 5-8m/s; milder from Walton to Gulf County) today and Friday. Northeast winds Friday night shifting easterly then southeasterly by Saturday night (10-15kts; milder from Walton to Gulf County). South to southeast and southwest winds Sunday (10-15kts).



Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for November 30, 2007 12Z with Cell concentration sampling data from November 19 to 28 shown as red (high), orange (medium), yellow (low b), brown (low a), blue(very low b), purple (very low a), pink (present), and green (not present). For a list of cell count data providers and a key to the cell concentration categories, please see the HABFS bulletin guide: http://www.csc.noaa.gov/crs/habf/habfs_bulletin_guide.pdf



Verifi ed and suspected HAB areas shown in red. Other areas of high chlorophyll concentration shown in yellow (see p. 1 analysis for interpretation).


Wind conditions from Dauphin Island, AL
Wind Speed (ms-1)
10
0
-10
Nov 11
Nov 16
Nov 21
Nov 26
Dec 01